



washington rally

**150 RWDSUers
Join Other Unionists
To Lobby for
Needed Legislation**

-Page 3

New England Educational Institute Scores a Hit With Local Leaders

BOSTON, Mass.—The first in a series of educational programs for RWDSU locals was held at the Hotel Statler here March 4 and 5. The weekend educational institute was pronounced a rousing success by the 50 local officers and union staff members who participated.

Directing the conference were Executive Vice President Alex Bail, AFL-CIO Associate Educational Director George Guernsey and 'Record' Editor Max Steinbock. They participated in leading the discussion, as did Pension Dir. Joseph Swire of the IUE; William J. Croland, insurance consultant to the RWDSU; Boston attorney Robert Manning; Julius Goldstein of the Massachusetts Civil Rights Committee; COPE Area Dir. Henry Murray; and Joe Cass, political education director of the Massachusetts AFL-CIO.

Attending the conference were 50 delegates representing RWDSU locals in Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire and Rhode Island. Locals of the New England Joint Board and the Bay State Council were represented, as was Local 282 of Connecticut, by both full time officers and rank and file leaders. All expressed real satisfaction with the content of the session and the quality of the discussion.

The first session, on Saturday morning, dealt with welfare and pension plans, including objectives to be sought by unionists in collective bargaining, cost factors and other technical information. A film produced by the U.S. Social Security Administration, shown later in the day to the delegates, pointed up the revolution in American life that has been brought about by both Social Security retirement benefits and union pension plans.

The second session covered federal and state laws affecting unions. Delegates



New England RWDSU local leaders are shown at Mar. 4-5 weekend education conference in Boston.

found Mr. Manning's talk instructive and useful, and indicated a desire for further information on the subject.

The following day's first session was devoted to "The Union and the Community." Led by George Guernsey, delegates discussed their own participation in community activities and their identification as unionists by their neighbors. This session was followed by a film produced by the National Association of Manufacturers as part of its lobbying activities for restrictive labor laws. The film, which depicts unionists as racketeers or willing tools for corrupt power-seekers, provided an ironic contrast for the discussion by the delegates.

The final session, led by Henry Murray, covered labor's political and legislative activities. The techniques of lobbying, of informing the community and legislators of labor's position on major issues, and of organizing for political work were discussed in detail.

The RWDSU served as host at a luncheon for the delegates on the first day of the conference, while the NEJB did the same on the second day. Because of illness, the RWDSU's top local leaders in the area—Regional Dir. Thomas Leone and NEJB Pres. Joseph Honan—were unable to attend the conference. The delegates voted to send them get-well messages.

Labor Says Kennedy Program 'Not Enough'

By ALEXANDER UHL

BAL HARBOUR, Fla. (PAI)—The AFL-CIO Executive Council has taken a long, hard look at the state of the American economy and the proposals that President Kennedy has made to meet the recession with the following sharp conclusions:

- President Kennedy is to be given credit for his job of warning the Congress and the American people on the urgency of the situation;

- The measures he has proposed thus far go a long way to meet the crisis, but—

- They do not go far enough and should be supplemented by other, more decisive action.

While high in its praise for most of the Kennedy statements on the economy, the Executive Council and its Economic Policy Committee nevertheless have expressed disappointment with Kennedy proposals along two lines:

1. The Council believes that Kennedy's estimate of a 2 percent annual rise in productivity is an "understatement" of the economy's potential ability, and

2. The Kennedy proposal for tax incentives to stimulate business investment is contrary to the needs of the situation because the real trouble is not more business investment in already under-used plants, "but for adequate purchasing power and consumer markets."

Highly praising the energy with which President Kennedy's Administration is tackling the recession and unemployment, the Council nevertheless said, "We believe that more must now be done. Even President Kennedy's prescriptions are insufficient to cure the economic ills which he has diagnosed so well."

"Even if the recession ends by mid-year, as we all hope

it will," the Council continued, "unemployment will still be higher at the end of the year than it was during the bleak final quarter of 1960, unless stronger anti-recession measures than those so far advanced by President Kennedy are taken."

While applauding the President's 12-point program to meet the recession, the Council recommended the following supplementary actions:

- Temporary tax reduction: This would provide standby authority for the President to forgive the first \$10 of withholding taxes each week for 10 weeks, "thus assuring that every taxpayer receives a total reduction of up to \$100. This would be put into effect should unemployment go above 7 percent of the labor force, as AFL-CIO economists believe probable in the next month or two.

- State and local public works: Stimulus to state and local bodies to push their public works programs through \$300 million Federal incentive grants which it is estimated would spur activation of some \$22 billion in public projects already planned for.

- Aiding small business: Tax relief for small business by reversing the present normal Federal tax of 30 percent on corporate income and 22 percent surtax rate so as to apply the smaller 22 percent rate to small business profits.

- Unemployment compensation: Prompt action on the need for permanent Federal standards in addition to temporary extension of benefits for those who have exhausted their benefit rights.

- Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance: An increase in the general level of benefits "to provide more adequately for the needs of retired workers and to make a larger contribution to the purchasing power needed for recovery."

- Minimum wage: Immediate increase of the minimum wage to \$1.25 rather than in three steps as is now proposed.

- Housing and urban renewal: The ceiling on Federal housing interest rates should be dropped to 4½ percent rather than the "token cut" from 5¼ to 5½ percent recently ordered by the Kennedy Administration. Also, the "discount" system should be outlawed to prevent circumventing of present rates.

- Federal aid to distressed areas: The Council supports the Kennedy-approved legislation to aid the chronically depressed areas, but doesn't want the program to be put in the hands of the Department of Commerce, as has been proposed. It urges placing it under an independent agency.

- Monetary policy: The Federal Reserve Board should be more flexible in its policies than it had been under the Eisenhower Administration with its "tight money." To that end, membership of the Board should be revised "to include representatives of labor and the public."

in this issue

How Press Covers Up For Big Business	4
N.Y. and Northeast	5
The Midwest	6
The South	7
Canada	8
Pres. Greenberg on Minimum Wage Fight ...	9
Mid-Morning Fatigue	10
Mr. Quaker's Perfect Record	10
Britain's Health Program ...	11
Letters to the Editor	12
Saving on Taxes	13
For Understanding Between Farmers and Workers—By Agriculture Sec. Freeman	14
Jane Goodsell Column	15
Cartoons, Humor	15

WORTH QUOTING . . .

The history of the world is none other than the progress of the consciousness of Freedom.

—Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel
1770-1831

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401

rwdsu RECORD

RWDSU Tour Sold Out

All places on the RWDSU charter flight to Europe have been sold out. A waiting list is being set up, however, in case of possible cancellations.

If you want to be put on the waiting list for either the complete tour (\$660) or air transportation only (\$243), send your name and address, together with \$100 deposit, to RWDSU TOUR, 132 W. 43 St., New York 36, N. Y., or call WI 7-9303 for information.

The Boeing 707 jetliner, chartered from Sabena, Belgian World Airlines, leaves from New York's Idlewild Airport on May 29 and returns on June 24.

WASHINGTON:

150 RWDSUers Join Rally To Push Labor's Program

More than 150 RWDSU delegates from over a dozen different states participated in a legislative conference called by the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept. March 7 and 8 in the nation's capital. The RWDSUers were led by Pres. Max Greenberg, Sec.-Treas. Alvin E. Heaps, Exec. Vice-Pres. Alex Bail, and other officers and staff members of the International Union and its local affiliates.

The main effort of the RWDSU contingent was directed toward passage of improvements in the federal minimum wage law, to insure both extension of coverage for retail employees and an increase in the minimum to \$1.25 an hour. (See statement by Pres. Greenberg on Page 9 of this issue.)

Public support must be rallied behind the AFL-CIO legislative program in order to insure congressional action to halt the recession and meet a wide range of unsolved social problems, the 1,000 delegates to the IUD conference were told.

"We must mobilize the American people in a crusade to get Congress to act," IUD Pres. Walter P. Reuther declared. "Let's roll up our sleeves and go to work—to get America back to work."

Delegates were urged to utilize labor publications, leaflets and educational programs to stimulate a barrage of letters to members of the House and Senate in support of labor's legislative goals and thus help offset the flood of letters from



RWDSUers in Washington get together during luncheon recess. In center, Pres. Max Greenberg; at far right, Sec.-Treas. Alvin E. Heaps.



AFL-CIO leaders, at recent Executive Council meeting, are briefed by Labor Sec. Arthur J. Goldberg on measures being proposed by Kennedy Administration to halt recession, relieve unemployment. The Council also informed Goldberg of labor's dissatisfaction with slow pace of anti-recession measures.

business groups opposing anti-recession measures.

Before spending a day on Capitol Hill urging congressmen and senators from their home states to give speedy approval to both short-range and long-range measures backed by the united labor movement, delegates heard a speech by Rep. Adam Clayton Powell (D. N.Y.), chairman of the House Committee on labor and education.

"The Congress must constantly be reminded," he told the cheering delegates, "of what the Democratic Party proclaimed it stood for during the course of the campaign, because there are strong and influential forces at work which are trying to keep our national effort oriented toward the same direction that we found it in—on the wrong side of dead center."

Powell outlined to the conference the extensive work now being undertaken by his committee in the fields of automation, minimum wage, civil rights, juvenile delinquency, Federal aid to education, situs picketing and an investigation of the National Labor Relations Board.

Rep. Frank Thompson, Jr. (D. N.J.) told the delegates that "we will have depressed area legislation this year because we now have a President who won't veto it."

Sen. Paul H. Douglas (D. Ill.) declared that he was "proud to be associated with you" in so many areas and he praised the labor representatives because they identified the interest of the producers with those of the consumers.

Special briefing sessions were held for the delegates on the AFL-CIO legislative program and visits were made to the Senators and Representatives urging that they get behind the program to "Get America Back to Work."

March 12, 1961

ALBANY:



Meeting with New York Lt.-Gov. Malcolm Wilson (3rd from L.), Local 1199 members urge passage of legislation reducing work week for pharmacists.

500 Members of '1199' Press for State Action

ALBANY, N. Y.—More than 500 members of Local 1199 came to Albany in the past two weeks to lobby for passage of legislation under consideration in the New York State legislature, 1199 Affairs Director Moe Foner reported.

Four hundred members of the local's hospital division arrived here Monday, March 6 to support bills that give hospital workers and other employees of non-profit institutions collective bargaining rights and unemployment insurance coverage.

The delegates also participated in a conference, "Operation First-Class Citizenship," called by the state AFL-CIO at the Manger DeWitt Hotel. Speakers at the conference included George E. Fowler, deputy commissioner of labor; Henry Paley, who spoke on behalf of Assembly Speaker Joseph A. Carlino, (R.), and strongly supported coverage of non-profit institutions' employees under the existing state labor relations act; and leaders of the state AFL-CIO. Raymond R. Corbett, legislative chairman of the Federation, was chairman of the conference.

After the conference the delegates lobbied on Capitol Hill among assemblymen and state senators.

"The delegates packed seven buses to standing-room and we needed cars to take the overflow up to Albany," Foner said.

Other New York City unions represented at the conference were RWDSU District 65, led by Sec.-Treas. Cleveland Robinson; Local 1707 of the state, county and municipal workers; Local 144 of the hotel and restaurant workers, Local 32-B of the building service employees and the Transport Workers Union.

The 1199 delegation was headed by Pres. Leon J. Davis, Robert Burke, director of the hospital division, and Elliott Godoff, assistant hospital division director.

A second delegation of 1199 members, made up of 100 pharmacists, visited the state capital on Monday, Feb. 27, to urge passage of three bills, which would add employee representation to the State Board of Pharmacy; set a basic 40-hour week for pharmacists with a minimum of eight hours overtime rather than the 54 to 70-hour work week, plus overtime, that is allowed by present law; and change the law which permits New York state to license out-of-state pharmacists without an examination.

"The pharmacists button-holed members of the Assembly's and the Senate's education committee, the majority and minority leaders, James Allen, the commissioner of education, Lt. Gov. Malcolm Wilson and their own assemblyman and senator to push for these bills," Foner said. The 1199 delegation was headed by Vice-Pres. William J. Taylor.



Some of 400 lobbying members of 1199's hospital division leave for Albany March 6. They urged legislators to bring employees of non-profit institutions under unemployment insurance coverage and give them collective bargaining rights.

Congress Finally Sets Investigation of NLRB

WASHINGTON (PAI)—The National Labor Relations Board, which for eight years has been handing down strongly anti-labor decisions, finally is to get a long-awaited Congressional investigation.

Rep. Adam Clayton Powell, New York Democrat and chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee, has appointed a special sub-committee which has been instructed to investigate how far the NLRB has conducted its work in conformity with American labor law, which laws down the principle that free collective bargaining should be encouraged and the right of unions to negotiate with employers is to be protected.

"If Congressman Dent's committee finds that during the course of the administration of the law this has been lost sight of, that the NLRB and its General Counsel have perverted the intentions of Congress," said Powell, "then we will certainly recommend effective measures to right this wrong."

Powell made the announcement in the course of an address before the annual legislative conference of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Department. He said that the subcommittee would have full investigative and subpoena powers.

The new chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee, who succeeded highly conservative Rep. Graham A. Barden, North Carolina Democrat, named a bi-partisan committee of six members, including three Democrats and three Republicans.

They are: Reps. John H. Dent of Pennsylvania, chairman; Roman C. Pucinski of Illinois and James Roosevelt of California, all Democrats; Clare S. Hoffman of Michigan, Robert P. Griffin, also of Michigan, and John Ashbrook of Ohio, all Republicans.

No dates for hearings have been set as yet, but Chairman Dent, a strong liberal, is pushing preparations for opening hearings and already has appointed Committee Counsel James Harkless to start the ball rolling.

Powell also announced that he is pushing legislation to permit situs picketing, a measure that has strong Administration support, that he will expedite the minimum wage bill and will propose a number of amendments to the Landrum-Griffin bill designed to safeguard \$40 billion in union welfare funds against corruption by management as well as labor.

The Powell announcement highlighted legislative activities that indicate Congress finally is getting off to a vigorous, if belated, start on many proposals made by the Kennedy Administration in the labor and economic field.

Goldwater's Year

ATLANTA, Ga. (PAI) — The following item is quoted from the Atlanta Constitution:

"Senator Barry Goldwater has announced that he will not be a candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination next time.

"He can already tell that 1964 won't be a good year. But if 1896 ever comes back, watch out."



SOUP LINES GROW AS AUTO PRODUCTION SLIPS: The 30-year-old soup line at Detroit's Capuchin Mission is growing again. Over 600 a day are being fed, reports Father Quentin. He says he can always tell when auto production is off because the line swells and younger workers join.

Ask N. C. Governor Free Jailed Textile Strikers

BAL HARBOUR, Fla. (PAI)—The AFL-CIO Executive Council has urged Governor Terry Sanford of North Carolina to commute the harsh sentences imposed on eight members of the Textile Workers Union in the Harriet-Henderson strike.

The Council did not pass on the guilt or innocence of the men but pointed out that they were found guilty only of conspiracy to damage property, that no property was actually damaged, and that in effect they had been sentenced for "talk and nothing more."

"Even if this is technically a crime," the Council declared in a resolution, "we consider the sentences imposed were unusually severe and harsh. None of these men had any previous marks against their record. In fact, their reputations are of the highest. It seems to us that the unusual severity of their sentences resulted from their trade union affiliations, the strike activity in which they were engaged and the inflamed emotions engendered by the long strike."

The Council urged all AFL-CIO affiliates to adopt similar resolutions "calling upon Governor Sanford to permit these men to return to their homes and their families."

The men, sentenced to terms ranging between two and 10 years at hard labor, are Boyd E. Payton, an international vice-president and Carolinas director of TWUA; Charles E. Auslander, Bi-Country Joint Board manager in Leaksville, N.C.; Lawrence Gore, an international representative; Johnnie Martin, vice-president of Henderson Local 578; and Warren Walker, Calvin Pegram, Robert Abbott and Malcolm Jarrell, rank and file members active in the strike.

AFL-CIO Council Votes 3-Cent Assessment

BAL HARBOUR, Fla.—The AFL-CIO Executive Council has voted an assessment of 3 cents a month for a six-month period to raise a total of 18 cents for each affiliated member, with half of the estimated \$2.2 million to be raised earmarked for the federation's general fund and one-half for the Special Purposes Fund.

Federation Pres. George Meany, announcing the council action, told reporters that it was necessary "to take care of our financial problems." He said the general fund had been running in the red for the past year.

He said the question of the federation's finances will come before the AFL-CIO convention to be held in December and will probably result in a higher per capita rate. Under the council's action, AFL-CIO affiliates can arrange with Sec.-Treas. William F. Schnitzler to pay the new assessment over a six-month, nine-month or twelve-month period.

Meany said, in reply to a reporter's query, that there will be "no particular campaign" for retrenchment and that there is "no plan to cut anything." He said the no-replacement policy followed in the past few years will be continued for the next year or so.

He noted that at the time of merger in December 1955 the federation had a total of 613 employees and that it now has a total of 499, although during this period the federation had created new departments and had expanded others.

The assessment was voted on the basis of a report from a special subcommittee on finance, consisting of Vice-Presidents Walter P. Reuther and George M. Harrison and Sec.-Treas. Schnitzler.

The Special Purposes Fund covers contributions to the Intl. Confederation of Free Trade Union's Solidarity Fund, the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee and other projects supported by the council.

The council at its mid-winter session here also heard a brief talk by Labor Sec. Arthur J. Goldberg, who brought with him a letter to Meany from Pres. Kennedy. Meany said that Goldberg had told the council there was going to be a hard fight to enact the Administration's basic legislative program in Congress but that the Secretary is confident that it will be enacted.

We Knew It All the Time

ANN ARBOR, Mich.—University of Michigan research experts, after lengthy studies, came up with a conclusion that any group of union workers could have told them in 30 seconds—that foremen and supervisors with little-Hitler complexes don't get as much work done as those who treat their subordinates as equals.

The University experts used abstract language—"Supervisors with an authoritarian personality benefit much less from participation than those with an equalitarian outlook"—but the idea was clear. Commented one United Auto Workers official, "This is the first time I've favored compulsory college courses for management."

WATCH on the POTOMAC

How Press Covers Up for Big Business

By ROBERT C. SPIVACK

THE MAKINGS OF A SCANDAL:—When the 29 electrical companies and their 45 top executives were charged last December with illegally fixing prices in order to divide up \$1,750,000,000 worth of business, you had to look long and hard in the newspapers to find the story.

Of 22 large daily newspapers only four put the story on page one. Another four put it on an inside page. It was omitted entirely by some papers, while 10 boiled it down to less than half a column despite extensive wire service reports.

Of the three leading news magazines one (Newsweek) gave it six inches; another (Time) gave it four inches on Page 77. And U. S. News and World Report omitted the story altogether.

Later, of course, when the guilty pleas were in and the judge sentenced the mighty industrialists to jail terms, the news accounts, some written almost as sob stories, received prominence.

I cite the muted treatment of the anti-trust case because we are on the verge of another big story that is likely to receive the same treatment. It involves the Federal Power Commission.

For years there have been rumors that the FPC had become a haven for the oil-gas and private electric power lobbies. The story is now in the process of being documented. But it lacks alleged drama.

So once again some sectors of the press are demonstrating indifference to a story of major importance where business interests are involved.

CLEVER LAWYERS AT WORK: The FPC story centers mostly in Tennessee and in Texas, but its ramifications are nationwide. What has happened is that some smart lawyers have figured out a device whereby their clients can become awfully rich simply because the FPC moves slowly—or not at all.

What happens is this:

A natural gas distributor makes application for a rate increase. But the FPC is so overburdened with work, because during the Eisenhower Administration

its staff was deliberately kept small, that the merits of the application cannot be acted upon.

Under FPC regulations if action is not taken within five months the rate increase automatically goes into effect. In Tennessee this has happened five times. The result is that one company has built up reserves of \$150,000,000 through use of this device; another firm in Texas has acquired \$250,000,000.

In theory the money paid by consumers must be refunded at seven percent interest, if and when the application for a rate increase is denied. But this is not as good as it sounds; the company is permitted to earn 11 percent on the money it has acquired. So the firm ends up well ahead of the game, no matter what the FPC does eventually.

The whole situation explains why the Kennedy Administration has decided that the time has come for a big shake-up at FPC and why Joseph Swidler, ex-general counsel of TVA, has been chosen for the job.

A story this big, you might think, would merit some extensive inquiry by the nation's press. But so far it is being ignored.

Talks with R. H. Macy Reach Crucial Stage; Job Security at Issue

NEW YORK CITY—Negotiations between Local 1-S and Macy's Department Store for a new contract have entered an intensive phase with a series of daily meetings scheduled, it was reported by Pres. Sam Kovenetsky.

The local's current contract, covering 8,300 employees at Macy's main store, in Herald Square, and four branches, expired Feb. 1 but it provided for a 60-day extension of its terms while negotiations continue.

The union has presented an additional set of demands to Macy's management for specific improvements in salary minimums and maximums and commission rates, for strengthened job security and improved welfare benefits.

"We need to safeguard our members' job opportunities against executive usurpation," Kovenetsky said. "Executives, especially junior executives, are doing stock work, inventory counts, selling and other staff duties, in violation of the union's contract."

Pres. Kovenetsky noted that the Macy management has advanced a greater number of counter-demands than ever before and was seeking changes in work rules and methods of commission payment which the union considered satisfactory and important.

Job security was a prime issue in the current negotiations, he said, especially in view of the introduction of automation and other job-reducing machines and procedures, ranging from advanced office machines to fork trucks, and including self-service, outside marking by manufacturers, and work schedules which would tend to cut down on regular, full-time workers. One of the results of these factors was a necessary emphasis on job security.

Local 1-S members have received a pledge of full support from the RWDSU Executive Board in the event that a strike is necessary at the store, the world's largest department store.

The union's 25-member negotiating committee includes division chairmen and the union's top officers.

'1199' Adds Care By Doctors To Benefit Plan

NEW YORK CITY—The trustees of Local 1199's Drug Division health and welfare plan have adopted an improved program of benefits effective April 1, it was reported by Vice-Pres. William J. Taylor, the plan's director.

All union members employed full-time and part-timers who earn \$60 weekly will now be covered for doctor visits both at the doctor's office and at the member's home. The plan will reimburse the members \$5 for home visits and \$4 for office calls.

Other improvements adopted by the trustees at their annual meeting will raise the maximum surgical coverage from \$250 to \$300, extend hospitalization benefits and raise the daily hospital room and board allowance; and provide hospital and surgical benefits for unemployed members up to six months.

"The trustees also removed a number of inequities in the plan which have arisen in recent years," Taylor said, "so that benefits are more equitably distributed, based on actual employer payments in members' behalf."

Taylor said the new benefits have been made possible by elimination of the inequities and increased employer contributions to the plan.

The changes in the plan were discussed by the local's membership in a series of meetings before the trustees acted.

Some 4,200 members of Local 1199's Drug Division are covered by the benefit plan.

'670' Reelects Tom Bagley To 52nd Term

NEW YORK CITY—Thomas Bagley was reelected business agent of Local 670 for the 52nd consecutive time at the local's annual election, held at the Newspaper Guild headquarters here on Tuesday, March 8.

Bagley was first elected to office in the local in 1910 and has been reelected annually ever since.

Also elected to office were John Finger, president; Leo Rissel, vice-president; William Mish, secretary-treasurer; Anthony Uzzo, recording secretary, and William Kuritz, sergeant-at-arms.

William Koffer, William Lamb and George Middleditch were named trustees, while John Chernowski, A. Conway, M. Rubino, A. Bernard, A. Condit, M. Fogarty, Pete Gillen, A. Janus, A. Kakuk, F. Licata, Frank Maiorino, A. Ogrudnik, A. Palumbo, T. Quill and R. Skae were elected to the local's executive board.

The local has 2,500 members in building maintenance crafts throughout the five boroughs of New York.



NEW YORK CITY UNION MEMBERS' CHILDREN, who attended camp last summer under the sponsorship of the Central Labor Council's Community Services Committee, are entertained by clown Joe Madden at jamboree held to launch council's 10th annual camping program. Local 1-S Pres. Sam Kovenetsky is chairman of CSC's subcommittee on camping.

Wage Hikes in New Contract For Foster Grant Employees

LEOMINSTER, Mass.—Local 60 has won wage boosts in a new one-year contract with the Foster Grant Co. for the firm's employees here and at Manchester, N.H., it was reported by New England Dir. Thomas J. Leone.

All hourly-rated employees won a 6-cent increase while piece work employees won a 3 cent hourly increase in their base rates, retroactive to Nov. 1. Adjustments ranging up to 10 cents an hour were also won for workers in various job classifications.

In addition, the present company-paid premiums for insurance coverage and life, health, accident and surgical benefits will now be paid into the local's welfare fund for the first time.

Other contract changes improve the vacation schedule, increase notice to workers prior to lay-off and provide funeral leave pay in case of death in the employee's immediate family.

Pres. Rocco Messina, Vice-Pres. Gloria Allridge, Rec. Sec. Helen Hathorne, Sec.-Treas. Ralph DeCarolis, Bus. Agent John Fiandaca and Leone headed the negotiating committee with the assistance of

stewards from both plants.

Representing Leominster employees were Beatrice Marrone, Rose Hutton, Juliet Collins, Assunta Rocca, Della Clements, Dorothy McGuirk, Madeline Lamarche, Lucien Grenache, Joseph DiRusso, Alicide St. Germaine, Des Piermarini, Jim Kinsella, Keith LaPrade, Steve Wiles, Maurice Hindle, Arthur King, Will Losey, Francis LaFontaine and Alvin Crawford.

Serving on the bargaining committee for Manchester workers were Richard Montgomery, shop chairman; Simone Beaudet, Dotty Maturo, Margaret Sullivan, Alice Beniot, Dana Stone, Joe Corriveau, Arthur Normandin, Bill Charland, Bernard Garritty, Tony Chesnakas, Norman Biosonneau, Jacques Forand and Norman Dumas.

Mass. Local Donates \$10,000 to Charity

LEOMINSTER, Mass.—Members of RWDSU Local 60, employed at the Foster Grant Co. here, contributed \$10,000 to the Leominster Community Chest, it was reported by New England Dir. Thomas J. Leone.

"The members of the local displayed a strong feeling of community spirit by meeting over 90% of their pledges for the drive," Leone, a member of the Community Chest's board of directors, said. "With only a few exceptions the vast majority of Local 60's members subscribed to payroll deductions for contributions."

Joseph Foster, president of the company, and Leone made the presentation of the contribution on behalf of the company and the union. Frances Brideau, Miss Leominster of 1960, took part in the annual Local 60 prize drawing, a part of the drive, held in the plant cafeteria before the presentation ceremonies.

Representing the Community Chest at the ceremonies were William Guffin, president; Donald W. Fleming, general chairman; Rodney Poland, executive secretary; Philip O'Brien, industrial division chairman; Ralph Lolli and Thomas Bagley. Alvin J. Tall, personnel director; John LaBelle, Donald Winograd and Robert Spencer of the company worked on the drive with Local 60 Pres. Rocco Messina and Leone.



Joseph C. Foster, president of Foster Grant Co. (second from l.), presents \$10,000 check to J. William Guffin (third from l.), president of Leominster Community Chest as RWDSU Regional Dir. Thomas J. Leone (l.) and Frances Brideau, Miss Leominster of 1960, look on.

The Midwest

Local 83 Wins New Contracts At Four Dairies in Detroit

DETROIT, Mich.—United Dairy Workers Local 83 has concluded contract negotiations for 170 members at the Johnson Milk Co., the United Dairies ice cream plant, the Litchfield Dairy and the Michigan Milk Producers Association, Pres. Frank W. Litz reported.

Employees of United Dairies won 11 cents hourly in a two-year agreement, 7 cents the first year and 4 cents the second, and an additional half-day before Christmas. The vacation schedule reduced the requirement for three weeks of vacation to 10 years and added a fourth week of vacation after 25 years' employment. United also increased its contribution for employees' hospitalization coverage.

Office workers at Johnson Milk got a 3-cent an hour wage boost and a \$5 monthly company payment for hospitalization insurance in a one-year agreement. The vacation schedule was improved to provide three weeks' vacation for employees with 10 years of service instead of the former 12 years and vacations will now be pro-rated on a monthly basis for employees who quit or are laid-off.

Local 83 members at Litchfield Dairy won a reduction in the work week from 48 to 44 hours with no loss in pay and a \$6 monthly contribution from the dairy toward the cost of hospital insurance. Routemen also won an additional day off each month. The contract runs for one year.

Michigan Ass'n Terms

In another one-year agreement, employees of the Michigan Milk Producers Association won a \$7 per month increase in the company's contribution for hospitalization insurance. The company also agreed to participate in a group health and accident plan if the plan is acceptable to both the union members and the association.

Herd testers will now receive hourly contract rates instead of a flat rate for each herd.

Other contract improvements will save an employee who is transferred to a different location about half of his moving costs and require the company to give 30 days' notice before leasing or subcontracting any of its operations.

The contract negotiations were handled by local unit committees, assisted by Vice-Pres. John Carney and Litz.

Local 83, which has 4,500 members in the dairy industry, affiliated with the RWDSU in June 1960.



MEMBERS OF LOCAL 512 employed at Carson Manufacturing Co. in Indianapolis elected officers recently. Shop leaders are (seated) Ocie Page (l.), recording secretary; Alfred McKinney, steward; Ilene Ridge, steward; Jane Pyles, vice president; and (standing) Pat Eads, steward; Viola Cunningham, chief steward; Zelma Hoffman, president, and Rose Mary Kempler.

3-Week Walkout Nets Pact At General Molds Toy Firm

LEETSDALE, Pa.—Local 1080 has won a two-year contract for 150 members employed at the General Molds & Plastics Corp. plant here after a three-week strike, it was reported by Int'l Rep. Charles Hess.

The contract provides a general wage increase of 5 cents an hour as of Feb. 15 and another 3 cents Feb. 15, 1962. The workers also won increased vacations, improved working conditions and better insurance coverage.

The strike at General Molds, a plastic toy manufacturer, began Feb. 15.

Local 1080's negotiators were Pres. Dorothy Skonieczny, Rich Goda, Ann Leto,

Rich Hlista, Gene Sokolowski, Reg. Dir. Gerald A. Hughes and Hess.

The General Molds employees voted to join the RWDSU in an NLRB election in July 1959 and won their first union contract several months later. That contract, an 18-month pact, expired recently.

'379' Wins on Wages, Hours At Broughton's

MARIETTA, O.—Local 379 members employed at Broughton's Farm Dairy Inc. have won pay increases up to 23 cents an hour in a new two-year agreement, Int'l Rep. Bill Kee reported.

All hourly employees will get a 5-cent hourly wage increase on June 1, and on Oct. 1 the work week will be reduced three hours with take-home pay maintained. All employees working on a shift which starts between 2 p.m. and 4 a.m. and working foremen won an additional 5-cent an hour raise.

Workers temporarily reassigned to higher-rated jobs will receive the higher job's scale if the assignment is for a period of one day or more.

The new contract also provides that overtime work will be spread equally, so far as possible, among regular employees; sets two weeks of vacation for employees with three years' service, and reclassifies certain jobs.

"Broughton's Farm Dairy is southeastern Ohio's largest dairy and the employees are enjoying the biggest take-home pay of any group of dairy employees in the area," Kee said.

Heading the negotiating committee was Gale Bartmess, unit chairman. Other committee members were Eugene Graham, John Thomas Jr., Edward Westbrook, William Franks, Norman Ewing, Lloyd Lent, Hugh Rorabaugh and Virgil Gearhart, assisted by Kee.

UAW Radio Show Tops Audience Poll In Detroit Area

DETROIT, Mich. — Shiftbreak, the United Auto Workers radio program broadcast by Guy Nunn, is this city's most-listened-to radio show in its time slot, according to Pulse, a national radio rating service.

The show, heard between 2:30 and 3:00 p.m., is aimed at workers on their way to the second shift, enroute home from the first shift, or to third shift workers and housewives at home.

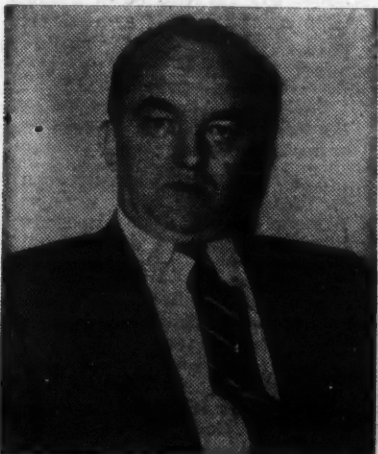
Pulse reports that Shiftbreak is heard daily by approximately 100,000 radio listeners at home and by the same number over their car radios. The next most popular program claimed about 78,000 home listeners.

Guy Nunn has built the Shiftbreak format around news, commentary, interviews, shop talk about the Auto City's main industry, and some music. The success of Shiftbreak is proof of the UAW's contention that an intelligent program with a liberal viewpoint will attract a large and faithful radio audience.

Eye Opener, another UAW radio show, is heard five mornings a week over stations in 21 industrial centers. This program is beamed to workers on their way to the first shift.

RWDSU Leader Asks Fair Jobless Benefits

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—Int'l Rep. Ernest Burberg, secretary-treasurer of United Department Store Employees Local 101, represented the RWDSU at a hearing of the United States Congress' Joint Committee on Unemployment Problems held here Feb. 25.



INT'L REP. ERNEST BURBERG
Sec.-Treas. Local 101

Burberg made the following recommendations to the committee:

- Unemployment compensation payments should remain in effect as long as a person, willing and able to work, is out of work.

- An immediate increase in the federal hourly minimum to \$1.25 would put more money in the hands of the lower-paid workers and help to bolster the nation's economy. In addition, workers in industries not now covered should be included under the law's provisions.

- Retirement age under Social Security should be reduced to 60 for both men and women. The retirement age is now 65 for men, 62 for women.

- Medical care for the aged should be tied to the Social Security System.

- The distressed areas bill is urgently needed because these areas are on the verge of a full-fledged depression, not in a recession.

- Federal aid to school construction will both relieve unemployment and meet the need for additional schoolrooms.

Federal aid to teachers' salaries would induce many college graduates to enter the teaching profession and staff the new schools.

Indiana 'Work' Law Repeal Loses

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. (PAI)—Hopes of organized labor and other supporters of free collective bargaining in Indiana for a repeal of the state's "right-to-work" law have been crushed by the maneuvering of Republicans in the Indiana House of Representatives.

The House defeated, 56 to 36, a move to repeal the anti-union law. Out-numbered Democrats in the House tried to insert a repealer into a Republican labor bill but a roll call vote tabled the amendment attempt.

The Democrats followed up this unsuccessful attempt with a motion to transfer the "right-to-work" repealer from the House Labor Committee to the full House but this move was tabled by a roll call vote of 56 to 36.

The two defeats may not mean the final death-knell for repeal of the "work" law in the state, but chances of change in the law now are considered slight.

Prior to the House action, the State Senate had voted 26 to 24 to repeal the "work" law and Democratic Governor Matthew E. Welsh had urged repeal, promising to sign legislation which would permit the union shop.



GET-TOGETHER at Jewish Theological Seminary convocation in Miami Beach, Fla., on Feb. 27 honors Labor Sec. Arthur J. Goldberg (center). Int'l Rep. Harry Bush (l.) and Gerald Greenfield of the meat cutters union were among labor officials who attended the meeting.

N. C. Merita Employees Win Wages, Fringes In 30-Month Contract

ROCKY MOUNT, N.C.—The North Carolina Joint Council has won wage increases and improved fringe benefits for 96 salesmen, retail clerks and drivers employed by the Merita Bakery here in a 30-month contract, Reg. Dir. Irving Lebold reported.

Clerks and drivers won 21 cents an hour and a guaranteed 48-hour week with time-and-a-half after 40 hours. Salesmen won a \$5 weekly wage increase and a \$77.50 guarantee while newly-hired salesmen will receive a \$72.50 guarantee and go to the \$77.50 rate in six months. The previous starting rate was \$65.

The company also agreed to contribute \$2 weekly for each employee to a union-run pension plan, which has already gone into effect.

The vacation schedule was improved to provide three weeks of vacation after

10 years of service instead of 12.

The agreement expires Sept. 1, 1963, the same expiration date as the union's other contracts with Merita, the southern division of the American Baking Co., in the Carolinas. The union also bargains for 150 plant employees and 71 salesmen in Charlotte, and 60 salesmen in Wilmington, N. C.

A ratification meeting has been set for Sunday, March 12.

The 10-man negotiating committee was headed by the union's officers and Int'l Rep. R. W. Parker.

NLRB Ruling Upholds '15-A'; Finds Claussen's Unfair

CHARLESTON, S. C.—A National Labor Relations Board examiner has upheld Local 15-A's charge of unfair labor practices filed against Claussen's Bakery here, it was reported by Int'l Rep. Larry Larsen.

The examiner has recommended that the Board set aside the results of a bargaining election that the union lost by a 25 to 23 vote last year and set a new representation election. The NLRB in Washington is expected to sustain its examiner and set the date for another election shortly.

Local 15-A charged that the company interfered with the employees' right to a free choice of bargaining agent by promising economic benefits if the workers voted against the union.

Larsen said that the outlook for union victory in another election is good. "Everyone out there at Claussen says he's going to vote for the union," Larsen said.

William H. Roberts and Charles Bryant are the union's leaders in the bakery.

Increases Won at American Tobacco

Local 15 has won a 10% wage increase, averaging 12 cents hourly, for 67 members employed in the stripping department of the American Tobacco Co.'s plant here.

The increase was negotiated by the company and the local after the strippers' earnings fell because of the changed quality of tobacco being used.

Nan Carter, John Cummings, Marie Hodges, Irene Reed, Andrew Hix and Larsen negotiated the increase on behalf of Local 15.

AFL-CIO Backs Tenn. Appeal

The AFL-CIO Executive Council has called on the Dept. of Agriculture to make surplus food available to 75 Negro sharecroppers and their families, evicted from their homes in Fayette and Haywood Counties, Tenn. for voting in the November election.

The council, acting on recommendations submitted by the AFL-CIO Civil Rights Dept. in consultation with AFL-CIO Community Service Activities, also directed the CSA staff to conduct a "gifts-in-kind" campaign to aid the evicted families, who have been living for more than two months in a tent city near Somerville, Tenn.

The AFL-CIO leaders approved a current campaign, conducted by CSA, to supply food and children's clothing to the families as an outgrowth of an earlier council directive. Last January the council voted a \$2,000 contribution to the Tennessee State AFL-CIO to launch labor's aid program.

A number of RWDSU affiliates have been sending aid to the hard-hit families.

Tough Fight Seen in Talks With 4 Va. Peanut Firms

SUFFOLK, Va.—Negotiations for 700 members of Local 26 employed at four peanut processing firms here have made little progress, it was reported by Reg. Dir. Irving Lebold. The firms are the Suffolk Peanut Co., Lummis Peanut Co., Pretlow Peanut Co. and the Parker Peanut Co.

At Suffolk, which employs 190 members of the local, the company has been trying to bust or seriously weaken the union, Lebold said. It first offered 10 cents an hour in a two-year contract if the union would give up the seniority clause and dues check-off.

When the union rejected these terms, Suffolk countered with an offer of 6 cents if the local would give up seniority rights for 20 men employed in the off-season. The local also rejected this offer. Another negotiating session with Suffolk had been set for Wednesday, March 8.

"If there is no agreement when we meet," Lebold said, "there will probably be an extended fight here."

The local's contract with Suffolk expired March 5.

Parker Peanut Co. has offered 6 cents over two years with no contract changes. One hundred and fifty members of the local are employed there.

Local 26 has held one meeting with Pretlow Peanut, which has 190 employees,

and with Lummis Peanut, which has 160 employees. The companies have made no offer as yet.

Local 26 also represents 1,500 workers at Planters Nut and Chocolate Co. here, the largest peanut processor in the world.

Local 19 Adjusts Rate At Gulf-Atlantic Warehouse

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—Local 19 has won 2½ to 3 cents hourly in a wage reopener for 50 members of the union who work at the Gulf-Atlantic cotton warehouse here, Pres. Lee Lashley reported.

The wage increase, retroactive to Feb. 12, brings Gulf-Atlantic's rates in line with other cotton compressors.

The local's two-year contract with Gulf-Atlantic expires Jan. 31, 1962.

Aaron Chandler, Clint Turner, Eddie Townsend and James Lee Brown negotiated the raise for the union.

Reopener Nets 4c Raise At Florida Citrus Plant

PLYMOUTH, Fla.—Local 1025 has won a 4-cent general increase for 200 workers in a wage re-opener with the Plymouth Citrus Products Co-operative here, it was reported by Int'l Rep. Harry Bush.

The 4-cent increase, which is retroactive to Dec. 12, raises the starting rate minimum to \$1.26, with other classifications ranging up to \$1.59 hourly. Agreement was also reached on the establishment of a new classification, evaporator operator, at a rate of \$1.31 an hour.

The Plymouth Co-op, one of the largest citrus producers in the state, runs at full capacity from December to June each year and during the off-season employs about 125 workers. It distributes citrus juice and frozen citrus concentrate under the Seald-Sweet brand.

Negotiations were led by Local 1025 Pres. Roy Jernigan, Sec.-Treas. Robert Fredericks and committeemen Huey Joyce, Dave Miller, Claude Lasseter, Vasco Barrett, Henry Nickols and Joel Watson. Int'l Rep. Buck Connell and Bush also took part in the talks.

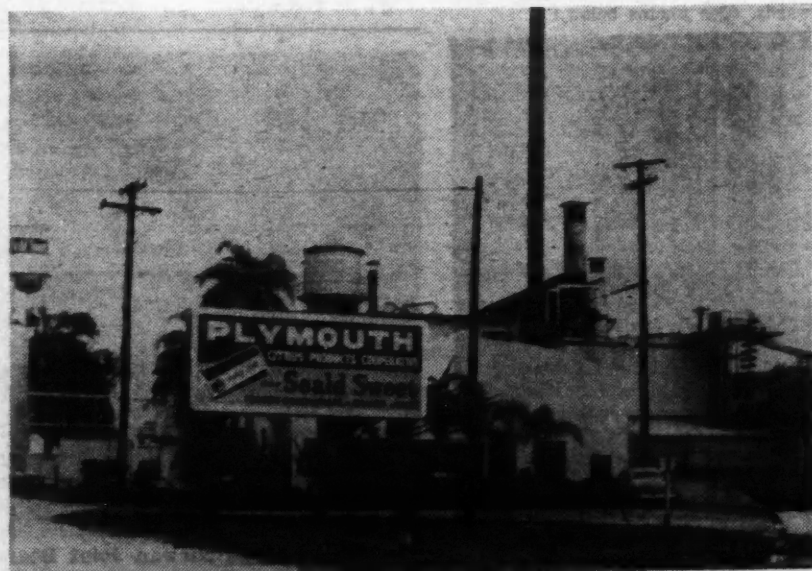
Bush reported that RWDSU locals in the citrus industry have found themselves weakened in bargaining because of the lack of inter-union communication.

"The local union leaders are working to begin setting up a citrus council for the purpose of coordinating negotiations and to grapple with the problem of organizing this industry, which is largely unorganized," Bush said. "It is expected that the first such conference of RWDSU locals in the citrus industry in this area will be called this coming summer."

W. T. Grant Signs Pact With \$1 to \$4 Increases

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Local 436 has won weekly increases of \$1 to \$4 for 25 members at the W. T. Grant store here, Ala. RWDSU Council Org. Bill Langston said. The RWDSU members also won time-and-a-half after 8 hours daily and after 40 hours weekly.

Elsie Baker, Enola Sweetser, Marietta Coleman, Ruby McGee, Gladys Sharp and Langston negotiated for the Local 436 members.



Plant of Plymouth (Fla.) Citrus Products Co-op, which recently signed agreement with Local 1025 on behalf of 200 union members.

\$4 Boosts in New Pact At Silverwood's Dairies

TORONTO, Ont.—Local 440 has won a new two-year agreement for 450 employees of Silverwood's Dairies Ltd. here, Int'l Rep. Gordon D. Reekie reported. The contract provides a general increase of \$2 weekly as of April 1 and a second \$2 boost April 1, 1962, a third week of vacation after ten years' of service, overtime after 8 hours daily and after 40 hours weekly, an improved route credit system and classification adjustments of \$1.50 to \$2 weekly for some Silverwood's workers.

New clauses in the agreement limit the amount of work that department foremen may do in the plant and require that the union steward be notified immediately after the dismissal of any employee.

The Local 440 negotiating committee was composed of George Danby, chairman; George Rennie, Bob Connelly, Bud Morrison, John Woodruff, George Reek-

ie, Local Bus. Agent A. Paterson and Reekie.

New Unit Organized

Reekie also reported that 27 employees of Fee Motors Ltd., a General Motors dealership in Lindsay, have won their first contract. The one-year agreement, which covers all employees except salesmen and office staff, went into effect Feb. 15.

The contract provides wage increases from 5 to 8 cents hourly, seniority rights for all employees, eight statutory holidays, and a reduction in the work week from 50 to 48 hours with no loss in pay.

The vacation schedule was improved from one week for all employees to one week after one year's service and two weeks' after five years' service.

Employees also won full job classification with the right to bid for jobs within their classification.

The welfare provisions give each employee life insurance coverage up to \$6,000, hospital insurance, medical and surgical coverage, and sick benefits up to \$40 weekly. The cost will be shared by the employees and the company.

Chief steward Doug McRobbie, Sec. Ernie Johnston, Ken Mark, Ralph Culbert and Reekie negotiated the agreement for the Local 440 members.

9c Won at 2 Canteen Shops

TORONTO, Ont.—Local 414 members employed at Automatic Canteen shops in Scarboro and St. Catharines have won 9-cent an hour increases in a one-year agreement with the company, it was reported by Int'l Rep. C. C. Dahmer, local director.

The previous contract was improved by changes in the contract language and by the addition of a clause permitting employees to transfer from one branch to another. Tom Willets, Norman Brown, Local 414 Rep. Roy Higson and Int'l Rep. Don Collins negotiated the contract, on behalf of the local.

2-Year Pact Nets \$4.50 For 450 Dairy Workers At 4 Manitoba Plants

WINNIPEG, Man.—Four hundred and fifty members of Dairy Workers Local 755 have accepted the terms of a two-year agreement with four Winnipeg dairies, it was reported by Manitoba Joint Council Bus. Agent Gordon Ritchie.

The contract provides a \$4.50 weekly wage increase with \$2.50 retroactive to Oct. 1, three weeks of vacation after 11 years of service, increased condolence leave pay and strengthening of the contract language in clauses covering seniority, leave of absence for union business and the clothing allowance.

The new agreement was negotiated for employees of Modern Dairies, Standard Dairy, Medo-land Dairies and the Crescent Creamery here.

The negotiating committee consisted of R. Matheson, Local 755 president; Sec.-Treas. G. Yeats, Rec. Sec. A. Farley; G. Dorset and O. Carriere of Modern Dairies; Joe Pelletier and Henry Letourneau of Medo-land Dairies; J. Stewart of Standard Dairies, D. Henrie of the Crescent Creamery and Ritchie.

Talks Continue at Brandon Plants

Negotiations for a contract covering Local 755 members employed at the Modern Dairies' plant in Brandon and the Manitoba Dairy and Poultry Co-op plant, also in Brandon, are rapidly nearing their conclusion, Ritchie said.

He also reported that RWDSU members employed at the Hudson's Bay Store in Pine Falls and at the Red River Co-op Shopping Centre and Co-op fuel department here were expected to meet soon to draft proposed amendments for new contracts with their employer.

Joint Council Elects

Members of the Manitoba Joint Council have elected officers and executive board members for the coming year, Bus. Agt. Gordon Ritchie reported.

Named to top office were R. Matheson, president; H. DeVries, vice-president; R. Oxenforth, secretary-treasurer; J. Westbrook, recording secretary; and G. Yeats, warden.

C. Geske, A. LeBlanc, M. Horaski, W. Coutts, T. Peron and R. Buchan were elected to the executive board. LeBlanc, Peron and Buchan were also elected auditors.

The installation of officers was conducted by Int'l Rep. Chris Schubert and Ritchie.

Bryces Sales Elects Officers

Ritchie also said that members of the Bryces Sales section of Local 895 recently elected Wes Gow as chairman, Bill Craige vice-chairman, Jack King recording secretary, and Larry Baert chief steward. The four officers were also named to the section's grievance committee, with Leo Domain as alternate.

Ritchie conducted the election and installation of officers.

At Brandon, the Modern Dairies section of Local 755 has named Ed Brykaliuk secretary-treasurer in place of R. Pow, who left the union to become a fireman.

Ontario, Manitoba RWDSUers Discuss New Party Program

By CHRIS SCHUBERT

International Representative

TORONTO, Ont.—Discussion of the New Party program is continuing among RWDSU members in this province, Ontario Supervisor Hugh Buchanan reported.

At the regular monthly meeting of the Dominion Stores Toronto unit, held Feb. 20, Buchanan urged members to participate in the drive to raise funds for the New Party.

Other speakers at the meeting were Harry Jacks, education director of the Canadian Brotherhood of Railway,

Transport and General Workers Union, and Granville Whitehead, a member of Great Britain's Trades Union Congress who is studying the Canadian trade union movement.

"The attendance at the meeting was greatly in excess of previous meetings," Buchanan said.

The program was planned by the Toronto unit's education committee, which is headed by Al Joyner.

Buchanan also spoke on the New Party at a meeting of 40 stewards and officers in Kitchener Feb. 21. The officers and stewards represent RWDSU members at Weston's Bakery, York Trading, National Grocers, Maple Lane Dairy and the Westside Dairy in Kitchener; Canada Bread and Mamm's Bread in Galt, Canada Bread and the Royal Dairy in Guelph and Canada Bread and McHutchison's Bread in Brantford.

WINNIPEG, Man.—Support for the founding convention of the proposed New Party is now being discussed at our various locals' membership meetings and a good deal of interest regarding this is shown among our members.

That doesn't mean that all are necessarily in favor of the idea, but certainly many of the members are in favor of support for the New Party, either by donation from the individual locals or individual contributions. I believe that as time goes on more and more of the membership will give support to this idea.

In some cases, \$1 per member has been contributed as a donation and other donations may be given out of the local's treasury. Other locals have decided to give a limited donation and add to that by soliciting individual contributions from those members that wish to give; still others have decided that the stewards

be given receipt books and approach members for voluntary financial support.

There is a difference of opinion on giving support to the New Party, which is understandable. Some members don't wish to give financial support to a political party. Others feel it is the only thing for labor to do now, that it is not enough any longer for us to fight only in the economic field—that we should take an active part in the political field also in order to back up our collective bargaining improvements by appropriate legislation, so that we don't lose out in one way what we may be able to gain by direct negotiations in the other.

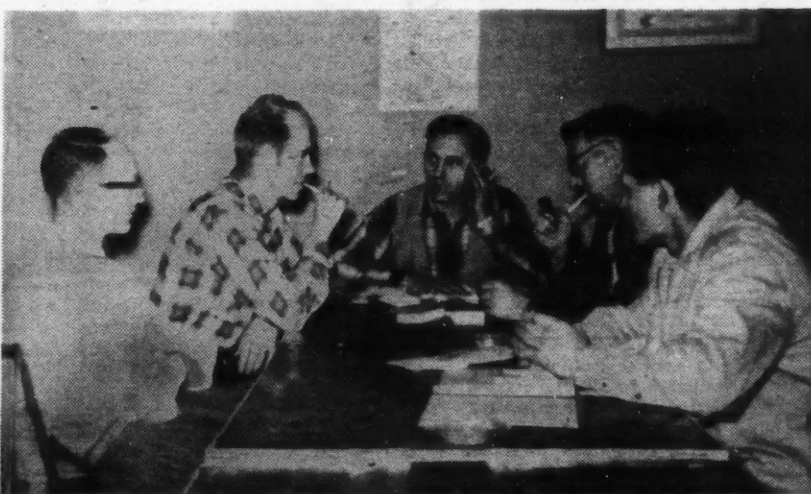
Local 454 Elects Leaders

REGINA, Sask.—Local 454 recently elected officers and stewards for 1961, it was reported by Int'l Rep. Len Wallace.

A. Miles was elected president, B. Edmonds was elected vice-president, L. Rahn was named recording secretary and R. Ast was elected treasurer. Brothers Terlesky, Meggesson, Flowers, Griffiths, Spiller, Macknack, Waldron, Frombach, Meisner and Teichmann were elected shop stewards. (See photos below.)



Adam Borsk, named to Sask. Joint Board staff, is former western Canada director for Packinghouse Workers.



Meeting at Saskatchewan Joint Board's offices in Regina, newly-elected members of Local 454 executive board include W. Terlesky (l.), B. Edmonds, Pres. A. Miles, L. Meisner and R. Ast. Board will serve one-year term.



Joint Board Rep. B. Klein completes leaflet for organizing campaign in Regina, Sask.

WHY WE WORK FOR A BETTER MINIMUM WAGE LAW

feature Section

By **MAX GREENBERG**
President, RWDSU

The Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union has been working for enactment of improvements in the minimum wage law for the past six years. We have been particularly concerned with the problem of extending coverage to millions of retail employees and other workers who are not covered by the law.

During these years, our union has conducted three minimum wage mobilizations in Washington to which we have brought hundreds of our members from all over the country in an effort to impress Congress with the importance of these amendments. Representatives of our union have testified before the House and Senate labor committees on approximately a dozen occasions. We have brought rank and file members of our union to Washington to tell members of the Senate and the House what it means to live and support a family on less than \$1 an hour.

We have had widows testify that they could not provide their children with the bare necessities of life. We have heard of workers whose children have had to wear their shoes tied around their necks on the way to school and church so that they would not wear them out.

These are the kind of people who would benefit from coverage under the minimum wage law. These are the kind of people for whom the Chamber of Commerce weeps crocodile tears when it says that coverage under the law would increase unemployment among low paid employees. The Chamber of Commerce would like to have us believe that the employers who hire people for 50, 60 and 70 cents an hour are public benefactors, that bringing them up to a \$1.25 an hour would bankrupt the business firms they work for.



Max Greenberg standard of living for the American people—not by paying coolie wages.

Why have we put this kind of effort into the minimum wage campaign? Why is it so important to our union—yes, and to all unions—to bring millions of additional workers under coverage of the act? The answer is not hard to find: by benefiting millions of workers outside our own ranks, we are protecting the gains that we have achieved over the years in our own unions. When the auto workers and steel workers and clothing workers fight for an increase in the minimum wage from \$1 to \$1.25 an hour, only a tiny minority of the members in their own ranks will benefit directly from this increase. But every union member, no matter how much he may earn, will benefit indirectly by an increase in the minimum wage.

Entire Economy Would Benefit

AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer William Schnitzler, testifying a few weeks ago before the House Labor Committee, pointed out that if the \$1.25 minimum were enacted right now, only three million of the twenty-four million people covered by the law would get a wage increase. The other twenty-one million are already earning more than this \$1.25 figure. But the fact is that from our point of view as unionists, as people who are concerned about the state of our economy and as people who are dedicated to raising the standard of living of all Americans, setting this kind of floor under wages is the most important legislative job we can do.

But important as it is to raise the minimum wage to \$1.25 an hour, it is even more important to extend coverage of the law to at least some of

the twenty million people who are excluded from its provisions.

Let's examine who some of these people are: They are agricultural workers, loggers, hotel and restaurant employees, laundry and dry cleaning workers, telephone switchboard operators and others. The largest group—some four and a half million—is employed in the retail industry. Another million and a half are employed by wholesale firms.

Now, in our own union, we have fought successfully over the years to raise the minimum wage in our shops to decent levels. And so today most of our members make substantially more than a \$1.25 an hour, and they work a 40 hour week by stipulation of union contracts, with time and a half and double time for overtime work.

In spite of this, however, we have members in our own ranks who are making as little as 85 cents and 90 cents an hour. In the state of Alabama, for example, we have under contract such giant firms as W. T. Grant and S. H. Kress, where the minimum wage is in the neighborhood of 80 to 90 cents an hour. We're not proud of wages like this in union stores, but the fact is that these wages are 20 and 30 cents an hour higher than those paid in unorganized stores in that state.

States Can't Do The Job

We have tried to put a decent floor under wages and a ceiling on hours in the state legislatures and we have succeeded to some extent. In New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts and a number of other states we have been successful in enacting wage and hour protection, but in the places where the need is greatest, we know we don't stand a chance of putting through decent state legislation.

As long ago as 1938, when the federal minimum wage law was first enacted, it was recognized that only the federal government could set standards on wages and hours that would have any real meaning for American workers. Today the need is even greater than it was then. Retail employees and other workers who are not covered by the minimum wage law are losing ground year by year in relation to the wages of workers who are covered by the law.

Just two weeks ago, the AFL-CIO Executive Council heard a report on organizing the unorganized which presented a pretty bleak picture. The proportion of the work force that has been organized by the labor movement is dropping steadily. This doesn't mean that there are not millions of workers who need to be organized. But these millions are mostly to be found in the white collar, distributive and service trades.

Unorganized Need Our Help

We cannot reasonably expect to organize these unorganized workers unless we can show them that we are prepared to fight for them and win for them a decent minimum wage, overtime pay and the other benefits of union organization. Our starting point must be on the legislative front. By putting a floor under wages and a ceiling on hours we will be giving these unorganized workers a real stake in their jobs—one which they will want to protect through organization in a trade union.

The fight for improvements in the federal minimum wage law is part of labor's fight for social and economic improvement for all the American people, not merely for our own members. When we support aid to education, more public housing, improved health care for the aged and the other measures that are on our legislative program, we demonstrate to the American people and to the world that the labor movement in this country is a movement of ideals and of dedication to the greatest good for the greatest number. With the help of the membership of the labor movement, our families, friends and neighbors, we can do the job. This year, we can translate into reality the kind of spirit that President Kennedy so eloquently expressed in his inaugural address, a spirit which will transform not only our nation but the entire world.

got that mid-morning let-down ?

Prepared by Medical Dept., Health Insurance Plan of N. Y. (HIP)

Somewhere about 10:30 or 11 in the morning, millions of New Yorkers are starting to feel sort of "let down," and lacking energy. They turn to the coffee machine for a pick-up. We're willing to wager that most of these people rushed out of their homes with not much more than coffee and toast on the run. No wonder their internal energy machines have run down by 10:30—there's so little fuel to burn!

When you stop to think about it, you wonder if this is what happens to our children at school. Are they as wide-awake, as alert and able to concentrate as they could be? We decided to look into this question, and this is what we found:

A recent 6-year study by a team of scientists at Iowa State College among a group of boys 12-14 years of age showed that those who ate a satisfactory breakfast made better grades, were more alert in class, and were more responsive than those who had omitted or skimped on breakfast. We're not saying that this is the cure-all for Johnny's poor arithmetic grades. But we're pretty sure that arriving at school breathless and tired, and shortly thereafter beginning to feel hungry, is no way to start a good day, or learn long division.

What did the scientists find was an "adequate breakfast?" It didn't seem to matter whether it was a cereal and milk breakfast, or one with milk, bacon and eggs, as long as it contained sufficient protein (eggs, meat, cheese), our appetite is satisfied longer.

This makes sense, considering the fact that breakfast follows a 12-14 hour period without food, and usually begins a morning of activity!

Many people believe that skipping breakfast is an easy way to lose weight. Actually, the Iowa studies showed that omitting breakfast has no effect at all on weight changes.

Mostly, however, the question of "not enough time" seems to stand in the way.

Setting an example is still the best way to teach children. It may take some planning and organization to set up the proper routine for a good breakfast for the family. Perhaps alarm clocks should be set ahead 10 or 15 minutes. Maybe earlier-to-bed is part of the answer, so that teenagers (or any of us for that matter) don't get up with that "tired-and-not-hungry" feeling.

But no matter what steps are necessary, one thing remains constant—a good breakfast, eaten unhurriedly, will improve our efficiency, our disposition, and our well-being. When we feel better, more alive, we look better too!



Bill Bohner: Perfect Attendance for 41 years.

'Mr. Quaker' Sets a Record At Cereal Plant in Missouri

By ED BALLARD

Reporter for Local 125, St. Joseph, Mo.

Clarence D. (Bill) Bohner, our Mr. Quaker, has established a record that will be very difficult to beat or even equal at the Quaker Oats plant in St. Joseph, Mo.

In 41 years on the job he has never been absent from work because of sickness or for any other reason, nor has he ever been late to work or had a lost-time accident. In other words, Bill Bohner has been on the job every hour—indeed, every minute—he was supposed to be there, being absent only for holidays and vacations.

Bill Bohner's record goes back to the time World War I was drawing to a close in St. Joseph, "where the Pony Express started and Jesse James stopped."

Painting was Bill's means of livelihood then and employment was quite uncertain: he was laid-off every time it rained. Realizing that such working conditions meant a short living for him and his bride—he had married Kathryn Marie Davis on Dec. 23, 1917—he decided to seek more stable employment, and on June 5, 1918, he became a millwright helper at the Quaker Oats Co. (At that time the plant was in the process of changing over from the Buhl woolen mill to the Aunt Jemima pancake flour and corn meal mill.)

He worked for a time as a millwright helper and then became a painter again, painting the entire plant while working at his old trade. Painting must have been his nemesis, however, because he was laid-off at the end of 1919. For some two months he went back to another former trade, furniture finishing, an occupation he had followed at the Abernathy Furniture Co. in Leavenworth, Kansas, before coming to St. Joe in 1916.

But Bill's return to furniture was not long-lasting. In February 1920, he met the

late William Clark, superintendent of the Aunt Jemima mill, on the street. Mr. Clark told him that his services as a painter were needed to paint Mr. Clark's car. When Bill went back to the mill this time, it was for good.

In a very short time Bill Bohner was called into the office and asked what trade in the mill he wanted to learn. He chose to be a miller and he has been a miller from that day to this.

Although his given name is Clarence, an old sweeper called him Bill many years ago and he's been Bill ever since.

Bill and his wife are the parents of two sons, Clarence D. Jr., known to everyone as Duke, and Robert. Duke, following in his father's footsteps, started working for Quaker as soon as he was old enough. He left Quaker only long enough to do his stint as a soldier and is on the job there now. Robert chose differently; he has been employed at the local plant of Armour and Co. for the past six years and is now manager of the quality control department.

Bill and Kathryn are active members of the First English Lutheran Church and he is a charter member of both the Quaker Oats credit union and the Quaker Masonic club.

Bill was born in Fullerton, Neb. but moved to Chariton, Iowa when he was quite young and attended elementary school there. He does not hesitate to state that this was the extent of his formal education. From Iowa he went to Leavenworth, and eventually he came to St. Joe.

Bill is an example of a man making good in his home territory, because this native son of the midwest has spent these 42 successful years some 300 miles from his birthplace. Bill Bohner's life has been a full, rich life and no one can deny that he has every right to bear the title of "Mr. Quaker of Local 125."

the truth about britain's "socialized" medicine

Torpedoing American Medical Association propaganda about "socialized medicine," a recent article in Look magazine declares that every independent survey made of Great Britain's 12-year-old National Health Service has found it to be an overwhelming success. The article was written by Edward M. Korry, the magazine's European editor and author of a study of the British health care program.

In addition to providing an overwhelming "yes" to the question: "Does Socialized Medicine Work in Britain?" it also represents a smashing refutation of AMA propaganda against legislation supporting medical care for the aged and successfully riddles every charge the "doctors' lobby" has levelled against the British health care system.

Korry states that it was necessity, not socialism that brought the health plan into being after World War II. "The crucial choice the British have made," he wrote, "is to place health on the list of essential services—just as we do with education, sanitation, water supply, the police and the armed services. It's a life-and-death matter, the British say, and they have acted accordingly."

The British program (National Health Service or NHS) is financed partly by payroll deductions. A worker pays 27 cents a week toward the system and the employer adds another 6½ cents per employee, while self-employed persons pay 31 cents. For this small weekly sum, a family is offered all medical services except drugs, for which a token sum is charged. The national treasury through general taxation foots the rest, 85% of the cost of the health program. Insurance covers an assortment of social welfare measures, including maternity grants for mothers, family allowances for children, unemployment, sickness and accident benefits, widows' allowances and old-age pensions, along with the Health Service.

Original demands for comprehensive socialized medicine touched off a bitter controversy. When the NHS Act was passed in 1946, opponents reacted with alarm. A 1948 poll taken by the influential British Medical Association—similar to our AMA—showed a ten to one vote in opposition. Eight years after NHS began, another poll revealed a significant change, with 67 percent of the doctors expressing approval.

Look—with a circulation of more than 6.3 million—said that in 12 years the British health program had:

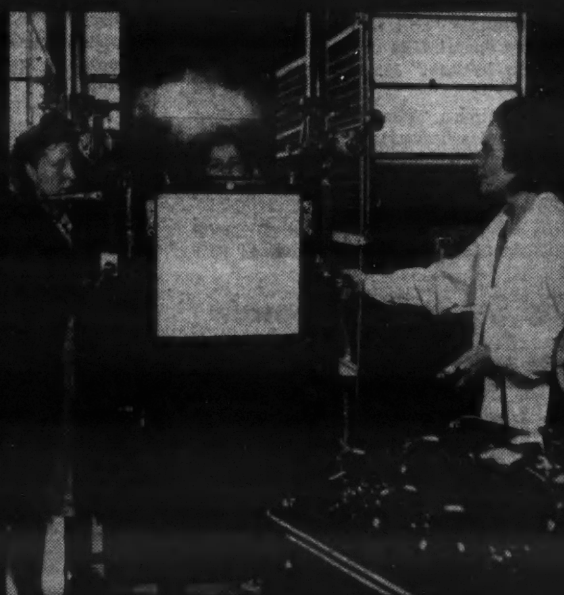
- "Crossed out the financial factor in the doctor-patient relationship without affecting medical standards.
- "Meant fairer distribution of health for all classes, regardless of income.
- "Done wonders in distributing physicians more equally around Britain.
- "Brought order out of the chaos of the British hospital system. By laying down national standards, centralizing purchases, by standardizing wages and by providing much-needed equipment, NHS has provided greater efficiency."

The Look article charged the AMA with being hostile to any health care program. "It has concentrated tremendous propaganda efforts on discrediting the British system and in blocking any form of national health program here," the magazine said. It then gives a point-by-point answer to the AMA's criticism of the plan in operation in Britain:

1. Although the AMA claims there is no free choice of doctors, anyone can choose any NHS doctor in his district as his regular physician. Since 97 percent of the 22,000 British medical men are in NHS, choice is not limited.

2. It is not true that British doctors are forced to take too many patients to make a living. The maximum number of patients a doctor may have is 3,500, the average is 2,267. Doctors receive the same fixed annual fee, but those with

(Continued on Page 12)





The Good Old Days? A Greek Tragedy

To the Editor:

The article, "Take Comfort: Ancients Had Tax Troubles Too" in the Feb. 26 edition of The Record, describing the taxes in ancient Greece, was very illuminating. Particularly the taxes that were levied against people who left their doors open on public pathways.

Can you picture Schmericles coming home from a hard day at the local grape presser? He's besotted and annoyed, and in addition, just avoided being impaled by a carelessly tossed javelin. As he turns the corner near his home a discus raps him in the small of the back and he makes the rest of the distance on all fours.

But this is not all. Some jerk left the front door open and he dashes into his home (on all fours of course).

"Penelopus!" he shouts. His wife comes in. He glares at her. "What do you think I'm made of? Drachmas?"

"What is it, husband of mine, that angers you so, for Zeus' sake?"

"How many times did I tell you to keep the front door closed? That lousy new uncorruptable police commissioner is cracking down! May his bones be gnawed by surly hyenas!" He throws a mace at her.

He continues, "The chariots are backed up for miles because our rotten door is obstructing traffic. All I get is taxes, taxes, taxes..."

So what are we complaining about?

MARTY RING
New York City

The Sayings of Lincoln Vs. Doings of Dictators

To the Editor:

As I looked at and studied admiringly the front page picture of Abraham Lincoln in the Feb. 12 issue of The Record and then read his quotation and other contents of said issue, two very pertinent, pithy proverbs came to mind—"the pen is mightier than the sword" and "a drop of ink makes millions think." I wondered in my own mind, what was in the minds of those writers that led them to such infallible findings?

No weapon has yet been conceived or taken shape that cannot be destroyed. But can anyone compute or estimate the power and far-reaching effects of word-weapons? The verbal explosions of all dictators to date are said and forgotten,

never having taken root, except for the regrettable massacres they incited in war.

But the divinely-inspired sayings of good men and women travel for generations after they are gone, and are as a lamp of hope and faith for millions, from the cradle to the grave.

MAY CROFT-PRESTON
New Westminster, Canada

Snow

To the Editor:

The recent snows which visited our city called forth some response from me. Better than shoveling it, no?

SNOW

The tender hushed whiteness of snow as it falls

Drifting and dreaming o'er rooftops and mails

Feels gentle and pure like a shy, trembling dove

Who, nestled in branches, sings sweet songs of love.

Yet, these velvet feathers are sparked with cold fire;

Their onslaught is ceaseless and they never tire

To snarl puzzled traffic and smother the streets,

Squeezing our city in accordion pleats Of pale submission. Their favorite delight,

As they practice their magic so cruel and so white,

Is to cover us all in a shroud of deceit, Innocent, mild and spun-sugar sweet. And while we stretch arms to give it embrace

The snow throws a snowball in our startled face!

FRANCES KROLL
Brooklyn, New York

Ode to an Empty Chair

We missed you at the meeting brother,
How come you weren't there?

You must have done something or other,

Cause no one took your chair.

Some day you'll come to us

And say now look it here—

When did you pass this stupid mess

That just came to my ear?

So brother, when next meeting's massed

Be sure that you are there

So not one motion will be passed

By your empty chair.

GEORGE JAEGER
Regina, Saskatchewan

Applause for Kennedy's Peace Corps Plan

To the Editor:

I wish I could express myself as strongly as I feel about President Kennedy's extraordinary conception of the Peace Corps. What an exciting ideal!

By living and working side by side with people whom we hope to teach our way of life, we most assuredly will learn a lot from them too. What a wonderful way to correct all the shortcomings and repeated mistakes which were so vividly pointed out in the book "The Ugly American." What great ambassadors those people will make!

What else can be said of President Kennedy but that he is young, but a genius.

KATIA SPELOTTI
Forest Hills, New York

Sees Economic Stress Causing Neuroses

To the Editor:

Psychiatrists keep on warning us that if tensions are not eliminated in the early stages, they may cause neuroses or other nervous disturbances which are serious and hard to cure.

It is therefore of vital interest to people everywhere that a cure should be found for this ailment which prevents people from enjoying a normal and happy life. When we read the works of well known psychiatrists we notice that they themselves admit of being powerless to cure any nervous condition completely. They claim that psychiatry is still in an early stage of development and that a treatment good for one patient may not have any effect on another person afflicted with the same ailment.

But of one thing they are sure—that there must be causes for tensions, stemming from maladjustment in childhood, or from sickness, from a financial loss in business and from many other causes. But very seldom will a psychiatrist mention the cause of unemployment as a detriment to health.

Millions of people can't find work. They can't buy the bare necessities of life and are in constant fear of losing the roof over their heads. This fear caused by economic stress gives the unemployed indescribable mental anguish. Where is the healing word of the psychiatrist?

Labor leaders, church leaders, rabbis and humane people in general who come

close to the workers and know their hard life, try to tell our government and industry about these evils. But psychiatrists are mute. From their ivory towers they look out for the rich patients, ignoring social evils which produce neurotic people.

Look magazine recently printed an article by a well known European psychiatrist who advised his colleagues to charge high fees for their services. This doctor said that if the patient pays a high price for his treatments, he has much more confidence in being cured. This is the policy of most psychiatrists. The mental health of the workers, the poorer classes, is of little concern to them.

The best cure for tensions of working people is employment with decent pay and security for the future.

SOPHIE ROSENFELD
Bronx, New York

A Vote Against Birth Control

To the Editor:

I've been reading about this new era of population explosion in our paper. It seems that those who have had their share of life are ready and willing to agree that human beings should be limited upon this earth. I must say I'm shocked. Are we to be known as the vanishing Americans?

Since this modern age is an open book, let us remember to also open the Good Book. The miracle of birth is not a thing of the past, it still exists. If we adopt birth control, we lose our standards as human beings.

Are we really having a population explosion or is it a brain explosion? The learned ones teach that the world is in need of love. Love and let love; this alone will cut down selfishness, greed, lust, hate and deception.

These words come to my mind: "When I consider Thy heavens, the work of Thy fingers, and the stars, which Thou hast ordained, What is man that Thou art mindful of him? And the son of man, that Thou visitest him? Yet Thou hast made him a little lower than the angels and hast crowned him with glory and honor. Thou hast made him to have dominion over the works of Thy hands; Thou hast put all things under his feet." (Psalm VIII, 3-4)

BETTY MORNONE
New York City

Britain's Health Plan—

(Continued from Page 11)

between 500 and 1,500 patients receive a higher rate per patient. "This encourages the physician not to take on too many patients," Look reported.

3. British doctors are not forced to seek private patients to supplement their incomes. NHS has been so popular that the percentage of income from private practice is very small. Physicians in Britain are better off financially than before the war. Independent committees review doctors' incomes periodically, and recommend raises to maintain professional status.

In addition, doctors get extra income for maternity services, for treating temporary residents, for training assistants, for clinic work, for school and factory sessions; they receive liberal expense-account deductions, generous pensions and mileage allowances in rural areas, and "special hardship allowances" go to elderly doctors with few patients and to young men starting out in practice.

4. It is untrue that patients receive inadequate care from overworked doctors. Independent studies show that doctors are generally working fewer hours and there is no shortage of medical men.

5. The AMA is wrong in saying that the medical standards of British practitioners are below those in this country. "British doctors refute the charge vigorously. They also note that, under NHS, debates over fee-splitting, unnecessary surgery and similar questions that enliven U. S. medical periodicals have practically ceased in Britain. Such abuses are no longer necessary," Korry wrote.

6. If the health plan interposes the government between patient and doctor, British medical men rarely complain of any interference. In general, doctors control their own discipline, and a physician runs afoul of the government only for unethical practices.

"All that NHS has done is to remove the financial factor from the doctor-

patient relationship," Korry said. "The records that the NHS is obligated to keep are more than offset by the gain of not having to send out the bills. He can now prescribe any treatment to his patient, with medical need—not financial status—as the sole yardstick."

At the beginning, the insured medical care program brought an influx of hypochondriacs to doctor's offices, but this has now tapered off. The main cause of the initial heavy demand, however, was not hypochondria but the flood of pent-up demands for adequate care.

Dental examinations are free. A charge up to a maximum of \$2.80 covers a course of treatment which may involve a number of visits to a dentist. The charges for dentures, including cost of treatment, vary up to \$11.90. All persons under 21, expectant and nursing mothers and patients treated in hospitals are exempted from the treatment charge, while provision is also made for those to whom the charge would be a hardship.

Recently released statistics reveal an important part of the NHS story. Tuberculosis deaths have dropped from 22,000 in 1948 to 4,480 last year. Infant mortalities tailed off from 34 per 1,000 births to only 20, polio deaths from 167 to 129, diphtheria deaths from 155 in 1948 to eight in 1958. Obviously, the British are healthier than ever before.

The article notes that ex-President Eisenhower knows first-hand about socialized medicine because he has been using it most of his life.

"Also, a number of our congressmen, all of our servicemen and many of our war veterans use it, too," the article declares. "Every time Eisenhower went to Walter Reed Hospital for one of his periodic checkups, every time a Senator or Representative uses an army or navy hospital, they participate in 'socialized medicine.' They are diagnosed, treated and bedded free of charge. The taxpayer foots the bill.

"In a nutshell," Korry's article concludes "that is also what NHS provides." Only that service goes further—"it applies in the doctor's office and the patient's home, as well as in a hospital and it is available to everyone."

HOW TO SAVE ALL YOU CAN ON INCOME TAXES

By **SIDNEY MARGOLIUS**
Consumer Expert for The Record

There's no reason why moderate-income families should not save all they can on taxes. Well-to-do taxpayers have accountants and lawyers to find all possible legal tax-savers. If you don't take time to keep your tax to the legal minimum, you'll simply pay more than your share of the tax load.

The biggest mistake working families are likely to make is to use the easy-to-fill-out Form 1040A—the punch-card form. This allows you a standard 10 percent allowance for deductions. It does not permit you to itemize deductions, nor to exclude sick pay received while ill or injured.

Before you take this easy way out, try figuring out your tax on either Form 1040W or Form 1040. These forms do allow you to itemize your deductions and also claim a "sick pay" exclusion. Then you can compare the results of itemizing your deductions against taking the ten-percent allowance.

Home-owners especially, and also families which give substantial amounts to churches and charities, and those who had large medical expenses or storm losses last year, often find that they pay less tax if they itemize deductions.

We aren't going to try to cover all possible deductions. They are listed in the instructions with your tax forms, and also in the Government's booklet, "Your Federal Income Tax," 40 cents from Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D. C., and the more-detailed Lasser's "Your Income Tax" (\$1.95 in stores). Instead we want to bring you up to date on tax deductions of special current importance, which you can use if you itemize deductions:

HURRICANE DAMAGE: People who suffered damage to homes, cars, boats, shrubbery or other possessions in last fall's hurricanes, can deduct for such damage on the long forms under "Other Deductions." You can deduct only for that much of the loss not reimbursed by insurance.

The big question always has been how to estimate the amount of loss, especially in the case of trees and shrubbery. In the case of heavy damage, the preferred way is to have an expert appraise the value of the property before and after. For smaller damages, you can claim as the amount of damage, the cost of repairs necessary to restore the property to its previous condition. If there is no repair cost, and the amount claimed is reasonable, your own estimate probably will be acceptable. If you make the estimate yourself it is desirable to have proof of the damage ready to show if required, especially if you make a large claim. One good proof is a photo of the damage.

You can also deduct for damage to your house, car and other possessions from other sudden natural causes as fire, freezing, landslides and blizzards.

Another type of deductible loss wage-earners often overlook is non-reimbursed collision damage to your car, even if the accident was your own fault, unless you were "willfully negligent" as in driving while drunk.

WORKING YOUNGSTERS: If your dependent child worked part time during vacation or after school, and taxes were deducted from his pay, make sure he files a return. The refund to which he may be entitled will not arrive automatically. It must be claimed. The child can take himself as an exemption on his own return, and you still can take him as a dependent as long as you provide more than half his support.

DEPENDENT PARENTS: A recent change in the tax laws helps taxpayers who provide the major support of dependent parents or parents-in-law. Now you can deduct the entire medical expense of dependent parents over 65, not just the amount over 3 percent of your income as in your own case.

In figuring out whether you pay more than half the support of a dependent relative, and so can claim him as an exemption, you can include the value of a room or apartment you provide as well as cost of his food, entertainment, transportation, clothes and medical care. You can estimate the cost of lodging a dependent in your own home on the

basis of what a comparable room would rent for in your neighborhood.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION: An increasingly important deduction for wage-earners in these days of upgrading skills is the cost of training or courses needed to keep up your job skills. You can't take a deduction for education you take to get a new or better job. But you can deduct for training to maintain or improve skills required by your job. In that case you can deduct costs of tuition, books and other equipment, and also lodging and transportation if you take this training away from home.

STRIKE BENEFITS: The Internal Revenue Service always has insisted that strike benefits are taxable income. However, the service now agrees with a recent court ruling that at least in the case of benefits regarded as gifts to needy strikers, and not as recompense, the benefits are tax exempt.

SICK PAY: Be sure you subtract from your taxable income any legally tax-free sick pay. You can exclude from taxable income up to \$100 a week of sick pay received after the first seven days of an illness. But if you were hospitalized at least a day, or were absent because of injury, you are entitled to a sick-pay exemption for the first week of illness too. You subtract the excludable sick pay from your taxable income on page 1 of the long form.

Workmen's compensation payments are fully tax-exempt without the above limitations.

Living Costs Drop for First Time In a Year — But Only a Little

WASHINGTON (PAI)—For the first time in 12 months the cost of living has declined. A report by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics shows that the prices of consumer goods and services in U.S. cities declined by 0.1 per cent between December and January.

The Consumer Price Index at 127.4 was 1.6 per cent above a year ago.

Every major group, except medical care, either declined or was unchanged over the period. However, price decreases which exerted a major influence upon the monthly price trend were centered among commodities, especially apparel, private transportation and food.

Services as a group showed a small gain, mainly reflecting higher prices for movie admissions and medical care services.

During the same period, between December and January, the BLS reported that factory workers' spendable earnings were steady and buying power was virtually unchanged.

Spendable earnings in both December and January were \$79.97 for a factory worker with three dependents and \$72.44 for a worker without dependents. Earnings normally fall back in January from their overtime-heightened levels of December, but this year earnings were down in December because severe snowstorms cut back hours of work.

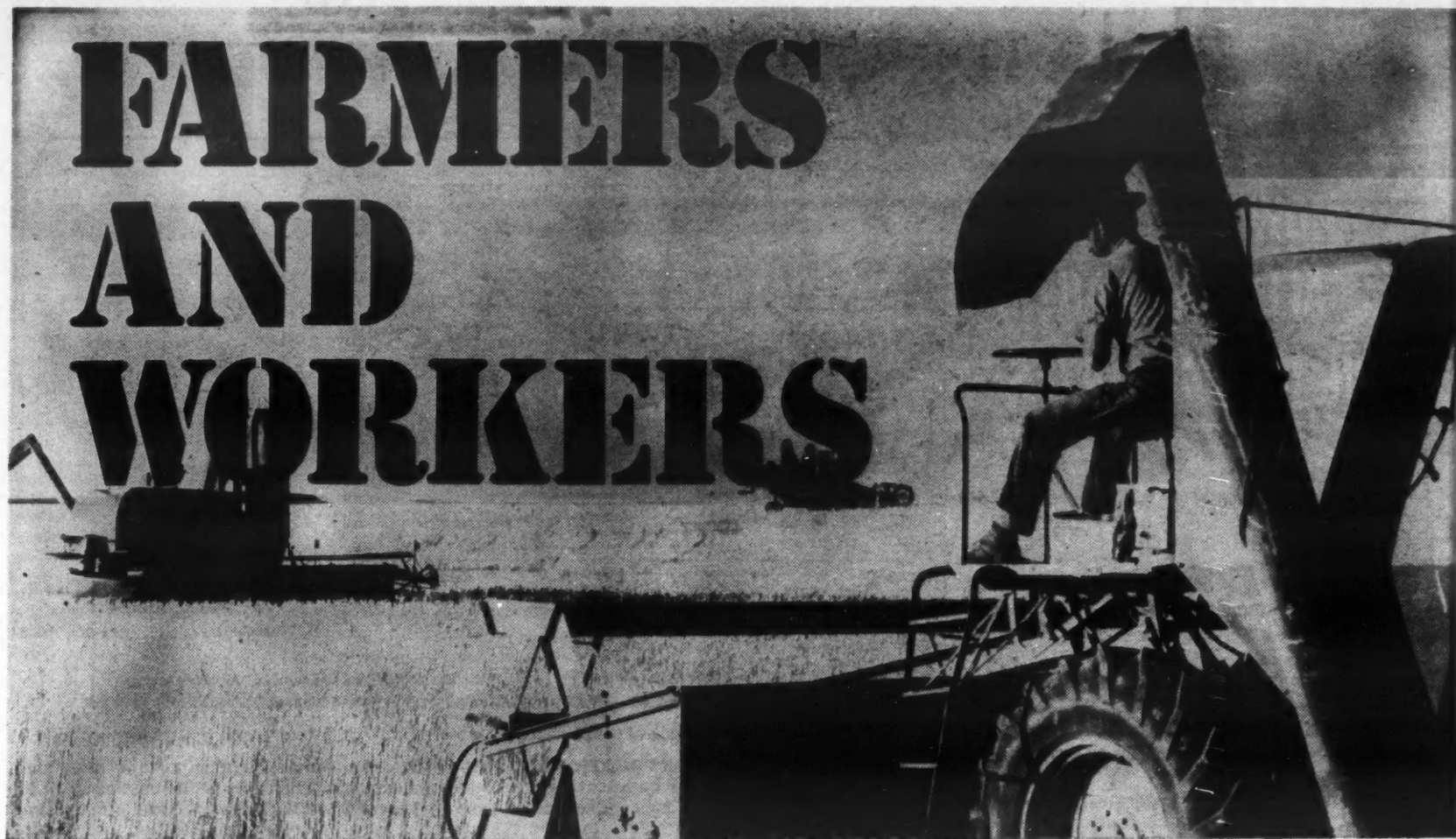
Compared with November, January's spendable earnings were down by about 65 cents or almost 1 per cent.

Because of the relative stability of consumer prices, the buying power of factory workers' earnings was virtually unchanged between December and January and almost 1 per cent below the November 1960 level.

Since January 1960, spendable earnings have fallen about 2½ percent as a result of reduced hours of work, and buying power has dropped about 4 percent because of the additional effect of higher prices.

For 1960 as a whole, spendable earnings averaged about \$81 for a worker with 3 dependents and about \$73.50 for a worker without dependents, almost 1 percent higher than in 1959. Factory workers' "real" spendable earnings in 1960 average \$64.07 (in 1947-49 dollars) for a worker with 3 dependents, or 124 per cent of the 1947-49 average. This was about ½ percent lower than in 1959.

FARMERS AND WORKERS



Cabinet Member Discusses Need for Understanding Between Them

By ORVILLE L. FREEMAN
Secretary of Agriculture

(Editor's Note: Former Minnesota Gov. Freeman has been a staunch and outspoken supporter of organized labor. When he assumed office as Secretary of Agriculture, Press Associates, Inc. asked him for his views on how workers and farmers could work more closely together. His special article follows.)

Those in labor who blame agriculture for the "high cost of food," or who say "farmers get rich at taxpayers' expense," or "farmers are subsidized to make up for their inefficiency," suffer from an understanding gap.

Similarly, those in the farm group who believe that "most labor leaders are dishonest," "most labor unions featherbed," "organized labor is responsible for the high cost of living," have an understanding gap of their own.

Why should this be? Historically, farmers and workers have had much in common. They are economic brothers in toil. They depend upon each other. They need each other. The farmer raises the beef which the worker processes into food. The worker helps make the equipment which the farmer uses to grow the food that keeps us all alive. Most of our clothing comes from cotton or wool or livestock produced on U.S. farms. Our homes are built out of lumber which grew not only in the nation's forests but on farm woodlots.

Surely, it should be easy for farmers and workers to understand their mutual interdependence. Surely, it is plain that the biggest factor in the prosperity of the farmer has always been plenty of food money in the purses of U.S. workers and their families. And surely, it is evident that agriculture as a \$40 billion customer for the products and services of the U.S. economy, pays the salaries of millions of industrial workers.

Why, then, do labor and agriculture stand apart? One reason is that labor and agriculture have neglected far too long to keep up their mutual lines of communication. That is why such misunderstandings about the cost of food exist.

Food Costs

How much, do you think, the cost of your market basket of food increased between 1952 and 1960?

The answer will probably surprise you—less than 2 percent. During this period other costs of living items rose about 15 percent. In fact, the marketing charges associated with this food basket rose 17 percent.

What accounted for the difference? A decline of 15 percent in the prices farmers received for the food products they produced. In a sense, therefore, it is the farmers who have been subsidizing the rest of the economy.

You pay 20 cents for a loaf of bread. The farmer's share of the wheat in that loaf of bread brings him a fraction over 2 cents. The cotton in a \$3.95 dress shirt brings the farmer about as much as you pay to have that shirt laundered once.

Actually, food is a good buy—a bargain. The U. S. consumer is better fed, and at lower real cost, than ever before, here or anywhere else in the world.

To feed a family of five for one month cost the average factory worker 120 hours of labor in 1920—91 hours of labor in 1931—but only about 36 hours in 1960. We buy our food for half the time it takes the worker in Germany or England to buy a comparable meal—one-fourth the time it takes a worker in Austria—one-fifth the time it takes a worker in Italy.

As for Russia—the Communists' paradise—consider these comparisons based on State-fixed prices in Moscow and prevailing retail prices in New York City as of August 1959.

To buy a pound of potatoes took 2 minutes' work here—7 minutes in Russia—3½ times as long.

It takes 6 times as much work to buy an ounce of tea in Russia as it does here—8 times as much work to buy a dozen eggs—9 times as much work to buy a pound of butter—and 21 times as much work to buy a pound of sugar.

Here in this country agricultural production per man-hour of work has tripled since 1940, and almost doubled since 1950. Compared with 20 years ago, one-third fewer farmers are producing food and fiber for one-third more people and providing them with better diets.

Now I don't mean to say that all of this increased efficiency is attributable to what farmers have done by and for themselves. Machinery, fertilizers, chemicals, new plant varieties have all played major roles in this outstanding success story. Without these products and the improvements in these products made by industry, today's farm productivity would be impossible.

Moreover, the lower relative cost of food is due also to the increasing productivity of the U. S. laborer and the vigorous role his unions have played in winning better wages and working conditions. This is something more farm people need to understand. And this illustrates what I mean when I say farmers and laborers depend on one another—need one another.

A deepened and more widespread realization of this close relationship would help lessen many national economic problems. The farm problem will more easily be resolved when it is widely understood that, far from being inefficient, farmers are paying the penalty of super-efficiency. Their ability to produce has outrun, for the time being, the nation's capacity to buy. We are still in the process of learning how to live with agricultural abundance.

That is why farm income has not kept pace with the increased income of other parts of the economy.

Income per person in the non-farm population totaled \$2,216 in 1959. Income per person in the farm population totaled \$664 from farm sources, and \$321 from off the farm sources, for a total of \$985.

Admitting that it costs less to live on a farm than in a city, something is wrong when farm people get less than 44 percent as much income as the rest of the population.

And something is wrong especially when farmers increase their total output by 27 percent in ten years—and get back 14 percent less net farm income. That is what happened between 1950 and 1960.

Farmers Weak Without Unions

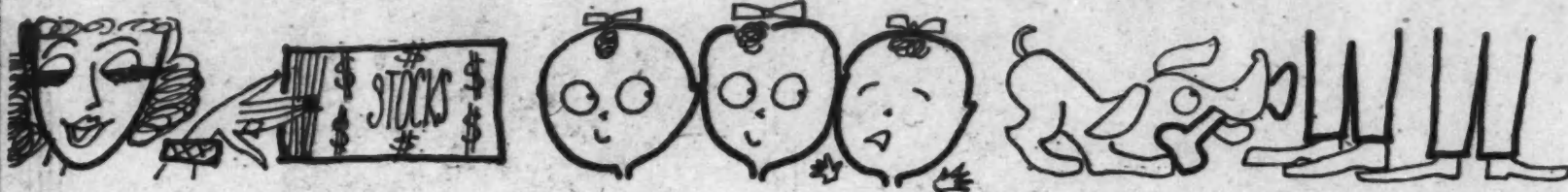
Because 4 million farmers producing 250 commodities are not easily organized, farmers have less bargaining power than other economic groups. This lack places them under a handicap that labor union members can readily understand. Individual farmers cannot set the prices of their products. Milk, maturing hogs or steers, apples, melons, vegetables and other products must go to market when they are produced. They cannot be held on the farm shelf indefinitely because the price isn't right.

Nor can farmers make production adjustments in the way that manufacturers can. The land is not a machine to be turned on or shut off at will. Moreover, the farmer's fixed costs are such that he cannot afford to shut down production even if prices collapse. His costs in land, buildings, equipment, interest and taxes will eat him up.

Farmers and laborers have a common objective—a steadily rising standard of living for themselves and for all our people. Let them seek it together in mutual understanding, realizing that prosperity is like a boy and strawberry jam—he can't spread it without getting some on himself.

Only when competent and efficient farmers, using the modern methods and scientific advances that have made U. S. agriculture outstandingly successful, are able to earn a fair return for their capital, labor and enterprise, will we have sound and permanent health in our economy.

lighter side of the record



—Drawings by Marjorie Glaubach

Stop the Press!

By JANE GOODSSELL

News stories I keep hoping to find:

Tipped off by neighbors, the police yesterday discovered two 80-year-old sisters, living a hermit-like existence in a dilapidated shack. The shack, which was unheated and contained neither plumbing nor electricity, was piled high with old newspapers, dirty rags, tin cans, broken bottles and garbage. A thorough search of the premises failed to reveal \$200,000 in cash. Only 26 cents in coins was found in a broken jelly glass.

Mrs. Violet Pinkney gave birth to triplet girls yesterday morning at Saint Anne's Hospital. The babies' father, Myron Pinkney, has

a full-time supervisory job at the Firebrand Machine Works. The Pinkneys own a house large enough for three children, and they don't owe a cent to anybody. They have no other children.

Mrs. Clarence Huff summoned police late yesterday afternoon because her two-year-old son, Roger, had been missing for several hours. After a fruitless search of the house and neighborhood, one of the police officers noticed that the Huff's collie seemed to be trying to lead them somewhere. The dog, who answers to the name of Red, was barking excitedly and running around in circles.

"Okay Red," said the officer. "We'll follow you. Let's go!"

Red tore off eagerly, followed by the police. After a two-mile chase, Red stopped dead in his tracks, pawed the earth under a camel-

lia bush and gave several joyous yelps. He emerged with a large bone in his mouth. Roger was later discovered, sound asleep, under his own bed.

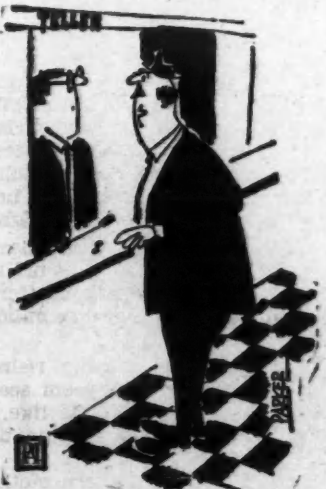
Miss Juanita Brown, a chorus girl at Las Vegas, became Mrs. Richard Hung Montgomery III yesterday afternoon. Asked when she first realized that she was in love, the titian-haired beauty replied, "When I found out that his father is chairman of the board of General Copper Mines Incorporated."

Coach Joe Masters, whose Central College team has suffered six defeats and won no victories this season, was queried on Central's chances of beating the undefeated Coolidge Cardinals.

"We haven't a prayer," sighed Coach Masters.



RECRUIT FROM BROADWAY: The Broadway stage was the route Neile Adams took from her native Manila to the movies. She makes her Hollywood debut in MGM's "This Could Be the Night."



"I said to the Boss . . . For two cents I'd quit . . ."

The Front Office



March 12, 1961



Intense interest in discussion is evident in this photo of some of delegates at New England RWDSU educational conference.



Exec. Vice-Pres. Alex Bail opens first session on welfare and pension plans. At right are discussion leaders, RWDSU insurance consultant William J. Croland and IUE Pension Dir. Joseph Swire.

New England Educational Conference Scores a Hit

The first in a series of educational institutes for RWDSU local leaders was held in Boston March 4 and 5, and was hailed by 50 New England delegates as "one of the finest conferences we've ever attended."

An interesting and informative program, able instructors, and the active participation of the delegates themselves made the weekend meeting an outstanding success. The RWDSU program was worked out with the assistance of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Education, whose associate director, George Guernsey, served as coordinator and also led one of the sessions.

See Page 2 for additional details.



Political and legislative activities discussion is led by Area Director Henry Murray of AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education. Murray got his start in labor movement in RWDSU Local 906 in N.Y.



Boston attorney Robert Manning leads session on "Your Union and the Law," which covered various federal and state laws governing labor.